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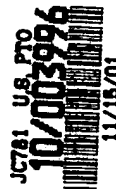
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November 15, 2001

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Peter M. Bonutti  
Filing Date : herewith  
For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TISSUE  
REMOVAL  
Attorney Docket No. : BON-1360-8

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

This information disclosure statement is being filed to fulfill the duty of  
candor and good faith toward the Patent and Trademark Office, in accordance with  
37 CFR §1.56.

Below is a list of information of which persons substantively involved in the  
preparation of the application identified above, are aware and believe that a  
reasonable Examiner may consider Important to deciding whether to allow the  
application. This statement is not a representation that no other relevant  
information exists, and is not an admission that any of the items is material as  
defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Copies of the listed patents and publications are

enclosed. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a) (2) (iii), no copies of listed U.S.

Patent Applications are enclosed. A PTO Form 1449 is attached.

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

U.S. Patent No. 2,526,662	U.S. Patent No. 4,844,064
U.S. Patent No. 2,621,145	U.S. Patent No. 4,857,045
U.S. Patent No. 3,554,192	U.S. Patent No. 4,950,296
U.S. Patent No. 4,142,517	U.S. Patent No. 4,994,067
U.S. Patent No. 4,265,231	U.S. Patent No. 5,073,373
U.S. Patent No. 4,466,429	U.S. Patent No. 5,171,244
U.S. Patent No. 4,472,840	U.S. Patent No. 5,204,106
U.S. Patent No. 4,541,423	U.S. Patent No. 5,269,785
U.S. Patent No. 4,554,686	U.S. Patent No. 5,284,655
U.S. Patent No. 4,589,414	U.S. Patent No. 5,298,254
U.S. Patent No. 4,603,694	U.S. Patent No. 5,390,683
U.S. Patent No. 4,649,918	U.S. Patent No. 5,403,317
U.S. Patent No. 4,678,470	U.S. Patent No. 5,514,153
U.S. Patent No. 4,681,106	U.S. Patent No. 5,577,517
U.S. Patent No. 4,751,922	U.S. Patent No. 5,779,728
U.S. Patent No. 4,798,213	U.S. Patent No. 5,954,739
U.S. Patent No. 4,832,683	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

French Patent No. 2344267

German Patent No. DE 37 07 787 A1

European Patent No. EP 0 192 576 A1

Japanese Patent No. JP 64-29266

Respectfully submitted,



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